

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

SYNOPSIS

GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday, September 5, 2007
5:00 P.M.**

**City Hall
Room W-120
200 East Santa Clara Street
San José, CA 95113**

MELANIE RICHARDSON, CHAIR

MARY ANN RUIZ, VICE CHAIR

MIKE FLAUGHER

LESLEE HAMILTON

G.M. HARDING

JAMES KIM

JULIE MATSUSHIMA

ERIK KARSTAN SMITH

MARK SWINEFORD

To arrange an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act to participate in this public meeting, please call the TTY number, (408) 294-9337, at least two business days before the meeting.

1 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Richardson, Flaughner, Harding, Kim, Matsushima, and Smith

Late: Commissioner Hamilton arrived at 5:11 p.m., Commissioner Swineford at 5:20 p.m., and Commissioner Ruiz at 5:44 p.m.

2 ORDERS OF THE DAY

Items 7.3 and 9.2 were moved up on the agenda.

3 CEREMONIAL ITEMS

4 ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Speaker: Jean Marlow, San José resident, spoke in opposition to the City Council's decision for the park location associated with the Irvine project.

Speaker: Marcella Kube, San José resident, spoke in opposition to the location of the park associated with the Irvine project citing the location does not serve the needs of the entire River Oaks area.

5 CONSENT CALENDAR

5.1 Approval of Synopsis for August 1, 2007 Meeting

It was moved by Commissioner Hamilton, seconded by Commissioner Flaughner, and voted unanimously that the synopsis be Approved.

6 PUBLIC HEARING

7 ACTION ITEMS

7.1 Approval of Lower Silver Creek Trail Master Plan

Yves Zsutty, Program Manager of Citywide Trail Systems, presented this item. He explained that Lower Silver Creek Trail would predominantly run through Council District 5 and is important because it would connect Lake Cunningham Park and the Thompson Creek Trail to the Coyote Creek Trail System. He answered questions the Commissioners posed including VTA's commitment and reliability as a partner, the proposed route under the PG&E easement east of Reid Hillview Airport, maintaining continuity when leaving the trail system and going onto the roadway, ADA accessibility, the time line for project completion, community meetings and constituent input, proposed murals and art work, and funding.

It was moved by Commissioner Harding, seconded by Commissioner Hamilton and voted unanimously to Approve the Plan with the request that staff update the Commission on strategies to address their comments and concerns.

7.2 Review of Planning Applications

Dave Mitchell, Parks Planning Manager, reported on planning applications submitted to the Planning Department for projects of 51 or more residential units for the period from July 15 through August 17, 2007. He answered questions posed by the Commissioners regarding specific projects. Commissioners Ruiz and Flaughner voiced their concern about park size and location for the project located at N. King and Mabury Roads.

It was moved by Commissioner Swineford, seconded by Commissioner Harding and voted unanimously that the report be Accepted with the request that staff prepare a letter to be put in the file for the N. King and Mabury project reflecting the Commission's concern for appropriate park size and location.

7.3 Discussion Regarding Continuation of the Secondary Units

Carol Hamilton, Senior Planner with the Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement, provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining the history of the Secondary Unit Pilot Program since 2006. She explained the City Council approved a pilot program to run the calendar year of 2006 or until 100 applications were received. Thereafter a second ordinance was adopted that exempted units approved under the pilot program from the park impact fees. Because of a limited number of applications, the pilot program was extended two times. The pilot program has been operational 20 months and there is now enough information to evaluate it. Currently the park impact fee exemption is slated to end October 31, 2007. Ms. Hamilton reviewed the parameters and design criteria of the units, the number of applications and permits as of July 20, 2007, and survey results from property owners and surrounding property owners. She also reviewed changes being considered including reduced rear setback, connection to a detached garage, increased height of the unit, and larger square foot allowances. She provided information on current permit fees and construction taxes which average \$5,000-\$6,000. She solicited Commission input on appropriate park impact fees for secondary units.

It was moved by Commissioner Hamilton, seconded by Commissioner Swineford, and voted unanimously that the Parks and Recreation Commission send a letter to City Council supporting the Secondary Units Program with the recommendation that fees should be reduced in relation to the full PIO fee, the exact amount to be determined by public hearing process; that staff will make a recommendation of the fee amount to Council; that fees will be exempt until the City brings updates to the fees.

7.4 Update on Greenprint Status

Dave Mitchell provided an update on the Greenprint. He reported Rafael Gomez will begin as the new Greenprint Program Manager on September 10, 2007. Dates of upcoming meetings in the various Council Districts were identified. The Greenprint Subcommittee is scheduled to begin their work this month. An in-depth update on the Greenprint status is scheduled for the September 19, 2007 Commission Study Session.

8 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Acting Assistant Director Julie Mark addressed the Commission regarding the August 8, 2007 Memorandum on Fire Station No. 2 Cost Benefit Analysis. The project has been scoped down, and Councilmember Campos is seeking to restore funding. One of the recommendations for funding sources is the Parks C&C Fund for District 5. This item will be going before City Council on September 25, 2007.

9 LIAISON REPORTS

9.1 Council Liaison

No report.

9.2 Coyote Valley Task Force

Helen Chapman reported the Environmental Impact Report was reviewed by City Council and it will be re-circulated for project description clarity. The Task Force is currently discussing whether the Coyote Valley Specific Plan is part of the General Plan. She requested that the item be agendized for next month's meeting for Commission discussion.

9.3 Evergreen Smart Growth Project

No report.

9.4 Senior Citizens Commission

No report.

9.5 Parks Maintenance Sub-Committee Report

Commissioner Kim reported the Sub-Committee is determining what, if any, their role will be in proceeding with the strategies to reduce deferred maintenance and infrastructure backlog now being spearheaded by City staff.

9.6 Land Use Policy Sub-Committee Report

Commissioner Harding indicated a report would be forthcoming at the next meeting. Commissioner Ruiz requested that she be removed from her position on the Sub-Committee.

9.7 Youth Commission

No report.

9.8 Community Sports Fields Study Committee

Commissioner Richardson reported the next meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2007 at the Evergreen Community Center.

9.9 General Plan Task Force Report

Commissioner Hamilton reported the next meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2007.

11 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

11.1 Commissioner News Items

Commissioner Kim shared that he was recently appointed Chair of the Korean American Community Services.

Commissioner Flaughter reported that he has been appointed to the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council.

11.4 Future Agenda Items

Chair Richardson recommended the Commission consider a study session on North San Jose.

12 CORRESPONDENCE

13 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m. The next general meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2007.